

MEETING SUMMARY

Client/Project: South Mountain Corridor Study Citizens Advisory Team

Date: May 23, 2002 **Time:** 6:00 p.m. **Location:** Vee Quiva Casino

CAT Members Attending:

Lee Banning, Maricopa Farm Bureau
Carlie Billen Back, SM/Laveen Chamber of Commerce
Chuck Crist, Lakewood HOA
Peggy Eastburn, Estrella Village Planning Committee
Michael Goodman, Phoenix Mtns Preservation Council
Don Jones, Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce
Angela Mazzi, Valley Forward

Robert Moss, United Arizona Dairymen
Nathaniel Percharo, Pecos Rd/I-10 Landowners Association
Barbara Schneider, South Mountain Village
Jim Strogon, Kyrene de los Logos Elementary School
Mary Thomas, GRIC Elderly Concerns Group
Anthony Villareal, Gila River Indian Community – District 6

Staff and Consultants Attending:

Thor Anderson, ADOT
Amy Edwards, HDR
Debra Duerr, HDR
John Godec, GRA

Bill Rawson, GRA
John Roberts, GRIC DOT
Mary Viparina, ADOT
Bill Vachon, FHWA

Meeting Facilitation: John Godec, GRA

Meeting Summary: Bill Rawson, GRA

Decisions:

- The CAT members agreed that they would like to see a summary of other major transportation projects planned for the Phoenix metropolitan area, such as the Loop 303. The consulting team committed to providing that information. It was suggested that it might be appropriate to invite a senior MAG official to provide an overview of valley-wide transportation facility plans.

Next Meeting:

- June 27, 2002 (Tentative)

ACTION PLAN:

| Task/Activity | WHO | WHEN |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|
| Update Purpose and Need Report with numbers/statistics | Amy Edwards/Debra Duerr | Next CAT Meeting |
| Report on Loop 303, other planned facilities and their projected impact on traffic | Amy Edwards | Next CAT Meeting |
| GRIC District Boundaries | HDR | Next CAT Meeting |
| Add missing features to corridor map | All | |

Meeting Handouts:

- Hard copy of Purpose and Need presentation

Welcome and Introductions:

John Godec welcomed continuing members and staff. Don Jones introduced himself as a new CAT member replacing Sharolyn Hohman representing the SW Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Project Update:

Amy Edwards offered a brief technical update of the project. She reported that there is some uncertainty in the schedule because alternatives have not been received from GRIC. She said a decision should be made soon as to how to proceed.

John Godec gave a brief synopsis of public involvement activity since the last CAT meeting including a summary of a meeting held at Kyrene de los Lagos School in Ahwatukee.

Purpose and Need:

Amy Edwards asked for CAP member comments on a draft purpose and need presentation. A copy of the presentation was distributed to the members.

- The purpose of the meeting was presented as a discussion of the need for additional information dealing with the purpose and need for a transportation system in the corridor. It was generally agreed that some members of the public in the area do not accept that an additional transportation facility is warranted.
- John Godec asked for discussion on what role a “Not In My Backyard” (NIMBY) perception plays in the existing in the area. Many CAT members agreed that NIMBY played a significant role but they also restated their concerns about traffic modeling numbers presented in past meetings as being suspect or difficult to believe.

CAT Member Comments:

- Don’t use jargon – e.g. MAG, CD roads.
- Show the schedule of improvements included in MAG Long-Range Transportation Plan.
- Explain how projected traffic volumes on South Mountain corridor were derived – e.g. Ahwatukee residents don’t believe the trips are there to support a freeway.
- Sound like truck traffic is being “disguised” as local traffic.

- Make sure the select link analysis done for the South Mountain corridor accounts for traffic going to downtown.
- Can the select link graphic also show local study area traffic patterns, based on future land use?
- The regional traffic movement concepts included in the MAG model are contradictory to the Phoenix urban village (live, work, play) concepts - need to reconcile.
- Truck traffic is the main concern for Gila River Indian Community. People want to know how many trucks there are now, and where they will go in the future. Will 51st Avenue be made a No Truck route?
- There are 10,000 homes planned in the Maricopa/Stanfield area. Are they accounted for in the model?
- Show a schedule for construction of a South Mountain Freeway. Use a “best case scenario” such as 15 years until completion.
- Induced growth/travel should be addressed. Sprawl fosters localized travel and unintended consequences.
- What percent of people use transit, carpooling, and other alternatives today? (about 2%)
- How can the projected 22% excess travel demand be satisfied? South Mountain will only handle a portion of that. What else can be done?
- Emphasize how this project will serve the new dynamics of land use and travel patterns in 2025. The purpose is not to solve an existing problem.